

**1. Amendments to the Claims:**

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A metal halide lamp ~~for a vehicle headlamp~~, comprising:
  - a cylindrically-shaped discharge vessel along a longitudinal axis, said discharge vessel having a ceramic wall which encloses a discharge space comprising Xe and an ionizable filling, wherein a portion of a surface of the outer bulb facing away from the discharge vessel is shaped as a negative lens, and
  - a cylindrically-shaped outer bulb surrounding the discharge vessel along the longitudinal axis, wherein the portion with respect to the longitudinal axis encompasses a segment of the outer bulb with a segment angle  $\alpha$  in a range between  $20^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 110^\circ$  characterized in that a portion of a surface of the outer bulb facing away from the discharge vessel is shaped as a negative lens.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently amended) The metal halide lamp of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the portion forming the negative lens comprises a flat surface.
4. (Currently amended) The metal halide lamp of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the portion forming the negative lens comprises a curved surface which is less curved than a curvature of a remainder of the outer bulb.

5. (Currently amended) The metal halide lamp of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein a first portion and a second portion of the surface of the outer bulb facing away from the discharge vessel are shaped as negative lenses.

6. (Currently amended) The metal halide lamp of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the first portion and the second portion are at opposite sides of the outer bulb.

7. (Previously Presented) The metal halide lamp of claim 5, characterized  
in that a transition between the first portion and a remainder of the outer bulb  
defines a first plane,  
in that a transition between the second portion and the remainder of the outer bulb  
defines a second plane, and  
in that the first plane and the second plane make an angle with respect to each  
other which is equal to or less than  $10^{\circ}$ .

8. (Currently amended) The metal halide lamp of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~wherein at least one of the portions forming the negative lenses has anti-reflective properties.

9. (Currently amended) A vehicle headlamp comprising a reflector and the metal halide lamp of claim 1.

10. (Currently amended) The vehicle headlamp of claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the portion forming the negative lens is oriented in the direction of portions of the reflector creating a cut-off between an illuminated area and a glare area according to requirements for automotive passing beam patterns.

11. (New) The metal halide lamp of claim 1, wherein the segment angle  $\alpha$  is in a range between  $60^{\circ} \leq \alpha \leq 90^{\circ}$ .